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CONNECTICUT



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ACTS RESPECTING COMMON SCHOOLS.

DURING our temporary absence from the state, arrangements were made for the regular appearance of the Journal on the first of every month, by continuing the publication of certain documents referred to in the Annual Report of the Superintendent of Common Schools in 1852. Circumstances beyond our control have delayed the issue of the numbers for September and October. We therefore publish a double number embracing all the provisions of our statute book respecting schools and the education of children, as prepared for publication in a pamphlet form, in which it will soon be issued. The notes referred to by the figures in the margin, are not ready for the press. They will contain when complete, the construction which our courts have put on certain provisions of the law, and the opinions which have been given by the present and former Superintendent of Common Schools, in cases submitted for advice and amicable adjustment by school officers and parties interested. These opinions, read in connection with the provisions of the law to which they refer, may help to a more vigorous and uniform administration of our school system, and lead, it is hoped, to a thorough revision of the same.

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PROVISION

OF THE

CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES OF CONNECTICUT

RESPECTING

SCHOOLS AND THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—*Declaration of Rights.*

1 SEC. 3. The exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and wor-
ship, without discrimination, shall forever be free to all persons in this
State; provided, that the rights hereby declared and established, shall
not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or to justify
practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the State.

SEC. 4. No preference shall be given by law to any Christian sect,
or mode of worship.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Of Education.*

2 SEC. 2. The fund, called the SCHOOL FUND, shall remain a perpetual
fund, the interest of which shall be inviolably appropriated to the sup-
port and encouragement of the public or common schools throughout
3 the State, and for the equal benefit of all the people thereof. The value
and amount of said fund shall, as soon as practicable, be ascertained, in
such manner as the General Assembly may prescribe, published and re-
4 corded in the Comptroller's office, and no law shall ever be made au-
thorizing said fund to be diverted to any other use than the encourage-
5 ment and support of common schools, among the several school societies,
as justice and equity shall require.

REVISED STATUTES OF 1849.

TITLE VII.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DOMESTIC RELATIONS.

CHAPTER IV.—*Of the Education and Government of Children.*

4 SEC. 22. All parents, and those who have the care of children, shall
bring them up in some honest and lawful employment, and shall instruct
them, or cause them to be instructed, in reading, writing, English gram-
mar, geography, and the elements of arithmetic.

5 SEC. 23. The selectmen, in their respective towns, shall inspect the
conduct of heads of families, and if they find any who neglect the edu-
cation of the children under their care, they may admonish them to at-
tend to their duty; and if they continue to be negligent, whereby the
children grow rude, stubborn and unruly, they shall, with the advice of
a justice of the peace, take such children from their parents, or those
who have the charge of them, and bind them out to some proper mas-
ter—males till twenty-one, and females till eighteen years of age—that

they may be properly educated, and brought up in some lawful calling or employment.

SEC. 24. Whenever any children or minors shall be stubborn and rebellious, and shall refuse to obey the commands, and resist the authority of their parents, or those who have the charge of them, then the parents, or those who have the charge of them, or any informing officer, may make complaint to two justices of the peace, in the town where the parties live, and such justices may issue a warrant, and cause such children to be apprehended and brought before them, and if, on due inquiry, they shall find them to be guilty, they may sentence them to be committed to the house of correction in the town where they live, or if there be none in that town, to the common jail in the county, to remain confined at hard labor so long as said justices of the peace shall judge proper—not exceeding thirty days; provided, that said justices, on the reformation of such children, may at any time after the commitment, order their release and return to their parents, or to those who have the charge of them.

SEC. 25. No child under the age of fifteen years, shall be employed to labor in any manufacturing establishment, or in any other business in this State, unless such child shall have attended some public or private day school, where instruction is given by a teacher qualified to instruct in orthography, reading, writing, English grammar, geography, and arithmetic, at least three months of the twelve next preceeding any and every year in which such child shall be so employed; and the owner, agent, or superintendent of any manufacturing establishment, who shall employ any child in such establishment, contrary to the provisions of this section, shall forfeit and pay for each offense, a penalty of twenty-five dollars to the treasurer of the State.

SEC. 26. A certificate signed and sworn to by the instructor of the school where any child may have attended, that such child has received the instruction aforesaid, shall be deemed sufficient evidence of the fact; and it shall be the duty of the school visitors of the several school societies, personally, or by a committee of three appointed annually, and as often as they shall think proper, to examine into the situation of the children employed in the several manufacturing establishments in their respective societies, and to ascertain whether the foregoing requirements are duly observed, and to report all violations thereof to some informing officer, to the intent that prosecutions may be instituted therefor; and it shall be the duty of all informing officers to prosecute for all such violations.

SEC. 27. No proprietor of any cotton or woollen manufacturing establishment in this state, or person carrying on the business of manufacturing in any such establishment, as lessee, or in any other manner, or person having charge of the affairs of any such establishment, or business, shall employ, or suffer to be employed, or aid or assist in employing in such establishment, any child under fourteen years of age, a greater length of time than ten hours in any one day. Every person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section, shall forfeit and pay for each offense a penalty of seven dollars.

TITLE XXXVI.

AN ACT RELATING TO MONEYS RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHAPTER II.—*Of Deposit Fund.*

SEC. 6. The treasurer of this State shall have authority to receive from the secretary of the treasury of the United States, for deposit

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Note with this State, the share or proportion of the public moneys of the United States which this State may be entitled to receive, in pursuance of the Act of Congress, entitled "An Act to regulate the deposits of the public moneys," approved June 23d, 1836. And said treasurer may receive said money on the terms specified in said Act of Congress, execute certificates of deposit therefor, and pledge the faith of the State for the safe keeping and repayment of the funds, or moneys, which it may receive in conformity with the requirements of the said Act.

Sec. 7. The money which shall thus be received from the United States, in pursuance of the said Act of Congress,* shall be deposited with the several towns in this State, in proportion to their respective populations, as ascertained by the last census, or with such towns as shall agree to receive the same on the terms hereinafter specified.

10 Sec. 9. The condition on which any town may be permitted to receive, or shall receive, its proportionable share of the said money, shall be as follows, to wit: first, that said town shall keep and preserve the money as a deposit, and in trust for the State; secondly, that it shall appropriate at least one half of the entire income or interest thereof annually, for the promotion of education in the common schools in such town, in such manner and proportions as such town may direct, and the remainder for the purpose of defraying the ordinary expenses of such town; thirdly, that it shall make good every deficiency in the amount received, should any loss occur through mismanagement or any other cause; and fourthly, that it shall repay into the State treasury the whole amount of said money received therefrom, or such part thereof as may be required, whenever the same shall be called for in the manner specified in the fifth section of this Act.

Sec. 10. The said money, when received by any town, shall constitute a fund therein, to be called the *town deposit fund*, until recalled into the State treasury, and the principal of this fund shall remain permanent, and no part thereof shall ever be used for any purposes other than those designated in this Act.

EDUCATION OF INDIGENT DEAF AND DUMB AND BLIND PERSONS.

By Resolutions passed from time to time, since 1816, by the General Assembly, and particularly by those bearing date 1837 and 1844, the Governor, on application by their parents or guardians, is authorized to make provision, in all or in part at the expense of the State, for the instruction and support of indigent deaf and dumb persons between the age of eight and twenty-five years, at the *American Asylum for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb*, at Hartford. Under this resolution all of this class of persons are properly cared for.

By Resolutions of the General Assembly, passed May session, 1838, and continued and extended in 1850, the Governor is authorized to provide for the instruction and support of indigent blind persons, under the age of thirty years, at the *New England Institution for the Blind* at Boston.

* Amount actually received from the United States, \$764,670 60.
 " " distributed to the towns, . . . 763,661 83.

TITLE IX. AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION.

CHAPTER I, consisting of nine sections, is confined to the subject of Colleges.

CHAPTER II.

OF COMMON SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL SOCIETIES.

SEC. 10. The Commissioner of the school fund shall, ex-officio, be superintendent of common schools, and it shall be his duty in that capacity to exercise a general supervision over the common schools of the state, to collect information from school visitors, in the manner provided in the twenty-fifth section of this act, and from other sources, to prepare and submit an annual report to the general assembly, containing a statement of the condition of the common schools of the state, plans and suggestions for the improvement and better organization of the common school system, and all such matters relating to his office, and to the interests of education, as he shall deem expedient to communicate. Note.

SEC. 11. Every school society, established as such by the general assembly, and the inhabitants living within the limits of any ecclesiastical society, incorporated with local limits, or such proportions of the same as have not been specially incorporated, shall constitute a school society, and as such shall be a body corporate, and respectively have power to establish and maintain common schools of different grades; to purchase, receive, hold, and convey, any real or personal property, for school society purposes; to build and repair school-houses; to lay taxes; to sue and be sued; and to make all lawful agreements and regulations for the useful education of all the children of the society. 11

SEC. 12. Every school society shall hold an annual meeting, on such days in the month of September, or October, in each year, as the committee, or clerk, in their notice therefor may designate, for the choice of officers, and the transaction of any business relating to such society, and shall also hold a special meeting whenever the same shall be duly called; and the school committee of the society, or, if there be no committee, the clerk, may call a special meeting whenever they shall think necessary or proper, and they shall call a special meeting, on the written request of any ten residents therein, qualified to vote, which request shall state the object of calling the same. 12

SEC. 13. All society meetings shall be held at the usual place of holding the same, unless some other place shall have been designated at a regular meeting of the society; and notice of the time and place of every annual meeting, and of the time, place and object of every special meeting, shall be given at least five days, inclusive, previous to holding the same. 13

SEC. 14. The school society committee, or, if there be no such committee, the clerk, shall give notice of any society meeting, either by publishing the same in a newspaper printed in the society, or by putting the notice on a sign-post therein, or in some other mode previously designated by the society; but if there be no such newspaper, nor sign-post, nor other mode designated, such school committee, or clerk, may give the notice in such manner as they may deem proper, and the person or persons calling, or notifying, any such meeting, shall furnish the clerk of the society with a copy of such notice, on or before the day of holding the same. 14

NOTE. SEC. 15. Every person residing in the society, qualified to vote in town meeting, may vote in school society meeting; and every meeting may choose its own moderator, and may adjourn from time to time, to meet at the same, or any other place.

SEC. 16. Every school society, at the annual meeting, shall choose a clerk, a school committee of one or three persons, a board of school visitors not exceeding nine persons, a treasurer, and a collector; who shall hold their respective offices until the next annual meeting, and until others are chosen or appointed.

SEC. 17. Whenever any vacancy shall occur in any office in the society, by death, removal, or otherwise, the school committee for the time being may fill the same, in their own number, or otherwise, and make return to the clerk of the society; and any person, legally chosen, or appointed, who shall refuse, or neglect, to discharge any duty imposed by this or any other act in relation to schools, or the education of children, shall forfeit the sum of five dollars, to be collected by the treasurer of the society, for the use of schools.

SEC. 18. The clerk shall be sworn to a faithful discharge of the duties of his office, by the moderator of the meeting, or by a justice of the peace; shall keep a record of the notices and the proceedings of the society, copies of which, duly attested, shall be legal evidence in all courts; shall preserve on file all reports made to the society, and perform all other duties appropriate to his office.

SEC. 19. The school committee shall have the care and management of any property, or funds, belonging to the society, and shall lodge all bonds, leases, notes, and other securities, with the treasurer, except so far as the same have been or shall be intrusted to others, by the donor, or grantor, or by the general assembly, or by the society; they shall pay to the treasurer all money which they may collect and receive for the use of schools; they shall settle and describe the boundary lines of any new school district, or of any existing district, or parts of a district, within their limits, where the lines are not now settled and described, when applied to by the district, and shall cause the same to be entered on the records of the society; they shall designate the time, place, and object of holding the first meeting in any new district; they shall give due notice of all meetings of the society; they shall make return of the number of persons over four and under sixteen years of age in said society, to the comptroller, and draw orders on the same for any portion of public money due to said society, as hereafter prescribed; and they shall draw all orders on the treasurer of the society, and perform all other lawful acts which may be required of them by the society, or which may be necessary to carry into full effect the powers of school societies.

SEC. 20. The treasurer, when required, shall give bond in such amount as shall be prescribed by the society, and with such sureties as shall be approved by the school society committee, for the faithful discharge of his duty; and shall receive and take care of all money, leases, bonds, notes, and other securities, of the funds, or property, of the society, except those specially intrusted to others by the donor, or grantor, or by law, and deliver and pay over the same to the order of the committee, and render his account at the annual meeting.

SEC. 21. The collector shall collect and pay to the treasurer, all taxes or rates laid by the society, and, by a warrant from a justice of the peace, shall have the same power to collect and levy such taxes in and beyond the limits of such society, as collectors of town taxes, and be liable in the same way for refusal or neglect.

SEC. 22. The board of visitors shall prescribe rules and regulations for the management, studies, books, classification, and discipline of the schools in the society; shall themselves, or by a committee by them appointed for that purpose, examine all candidates for teachers in the com-

mon schools of such society, and shall give to those persons with whose moral character, literary attainments, and ability to teach, they are satisfied, a certificate, setting forth the branches he or she is found capable of teaching; provided, that no certificate shall be given to any person not found qualified to teach reading, writing, arithmetic, and grammar, thoroughly, and the rudiments of geography and history; shall visit all the common schools of said society, twice at least during each season for schooling, once within four weeks after the opening, and again within four weeks preceding the close of the school, at which visits they shall examine the register of the teacher, and other matters touching the school-house, library, studies, discipline, mode of teaching, and improvement of the school.

SEC. 23. The board of visitors shall annul, by a major vote of the board, the certificates of such teachers as shall be found unqualified, or who will not conform to the law and the regulations adopted by the visitors; and shall submit to the society, at their annual meeting, a written account of their own doings, and of the condition of the several schools within their limits, for the year preceding; and said board may appoint a committee of one or two persons, to exercise all the powers, and perform all the duties of said visitors, subject to their rules and regulations.

SEC. 24. The visitors of each school society may, immediately after their appointment, meet and choose one or more of their number to be the acting school visitor or visitors of the society, for the year ensuing.

SEC. 25. It shall be the duty of the acting school visitor or visitors of every school society, to visit every common school in said society, in company with one or more of the visitors, or of the district committee, if such attendance can be obtained; and such visits shall be made twice at least during each season of schooling, in conformity with the provisions of this act. It shall be his or their duty, unless otherwise directed by the visitors, to spend at least half a day in each school visit; it shall be his or their duty to make a full report of the condition of the common schools of said society, and of all important facts concerning the same, to the superintendent of common schools, before the expiration of the year for which he is appointed, and to answer, in writing, all inquiries that may be propounded to him or them, on the subject of common schools, by said superintendent. He or they shall also prepare an abstract of such report, to be read at the annual meeting of said society, or, if the visitor direct, at the annual meeting of the town in which said society is situated.

SEC. 26. The acting school visitor or visitors of any school society, shall receive for the time actually spent in the performance of the duties prescribed in this act, the sum of one dollar each, per day, to be paid out of the treasury of the town in which the school-houses of the schools visited by him or them, are situated; such payment to be made from the income of that part of the town deposit fund, not appropriated by the legislature for the support of schools, or in such manner as the town shall direct; provided, that he or they shall have made his or their annual report, in the manner prescribed in the preceding sections; and provided further, that his or their account shall be approved by the visitors of the society.

SEC. 27. Whenever a common school of a higher grade, for the older and more advanced children of either sex, shall be established and maintained by any society, such school shall be subject to the management of the board of visitors, unless otherwise directed by the society; and shall receive such proportion of all money provided for the support of common schools in such society, as the number of scholars attending such high school, shall be to the whole number attending all the other common schools of the society.

SEC. 28. Every school society may establish and maintain a library

Notes. for the use of the children thereof, under such rules and regulations as said society may adopt; and such library may be kept together at some convenient place, or be distributed into several parts, for the convenience of the several districts.

Sec. 29. Whenever the boundary line between any two school societies is not clearly settled and defined, it shall be the duty of the school committees of such societies, to settle and define the same; and in case they can not agree, said committees shall appoint some disinterested person or persons, to settle and define said line, whose decision shall be final, and the boundary line thus settled and defined, shall be entered on the records of the two societies.

CHAPTER III.—Of School Districts.

Sec. 30. Each school society shall have power to form, alter, or dissolve, school districts within its limits; and any two or more societies may form a district of adjoining portions of their several societies, and may alter and dissolve the same; and every school district thus formed, shall, for all school purposes, belong to the society in which the school-house shall be situated, and the inhabitants of such district shall have the same rights and privileges, in such society, in all matters pertaining to schools, as are enjoyed by those of other school districts; provided, that no existing district, by the formation of a new one, shall be reduced, so as to contain less than forty persons between the ages of four and sixteen years, and that no alteration shall be made in the limits of any district incorporated by special act of the general assembly, unless such alteration shall be asked for, or confirmed by, a meeting of said district, warned for that purpose.

Sec. 31. The property of a district formed from two or more societies, may be taxed in the society in which the school-house is situated, for all school purposes, the same as the property of other districts; but for all other purposes, the parts of such district shall belong to, and be taxed in, the societies to which such parts belonged before said district was formed.

Sec. 32. When any two or more districts shall be consolidated into one, the new district shall own all the corporate property of the several districts; and when a district shall be divided, the funds and property, or the income and proceeds thereof, belonging to such district, shall be distributed among the several parts, in proportion to the number of persons between the ages of four and sixteen in each; and in case the distribution shall not be made before the district is divided, and the several parts can not agree, the committee of the school society shall distribute the same.

Sec. 33. Whenever on any such division of any school district, the only or principal property of said district shall consist of a school-house and real estate therewith connected, which can not be divided between the several parts of such district, without great inconvenience, the committee of the school society, instead of dividing such school-house, and real estate, shall set such school-house and real estate to one part, and award that the other part or parts shall receive from the part to which such school-house and real estate is set, such sum of money as shall, in the judgment of such committee, be just and right; and such award shall be binding upon the several parts of such district.

Sec. 34. All associations, under the statute of 1841, allowing any two or more adjoining school districts to associate together, and form a union district, entered into before the repeal of said statute, shall continue to be managed and regulated according to the provisions of the statute of 1841, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 35. Every school district shall hold an annual meeting, on such day in the month of September, or October, in each year, as the committee, or clerk, of the district, in the notice thereof may designate, for the choice of officers, and for the transaction of any other business relating to schools in said district, and shall also hold a special meeting whenever the same shall be duly called; and the district committee may call a special meeting, whenever such committee shall think necessary or proper, and shall call a special meeting on the written request of five residents therein qualified to vote, which request shall state the object of calling the same.

NOTE.

Sec. 36. District meetings shall be held at the district school-house; if there be no school-house, the committee shall determine the place of meeting; if there be no committee, the clerk shall determine the same; if there be no committee, and no clerk, the committee of the society to which such district belongs, shall determine the place of meeting, which shall, in all cases, be within the limits of the district.

Sec. 37. Notice of the time and place of every annual meeting, and of the time, place, and object of every special meeting of the district, shall be given at least five days inclusive, previous to holding the same. The district committee, or if there be no such committee, the clerk, or if there be no committee and no clerk, then the committee of the society, shall give notice of a district meeting, either by publishing the same in a newspaper printed in the district, or by putting the notice on the district school-house, or on the sign-post within the district, or in some other mode previously designated by the district; but if there be no such newspaper, school-house, nor sign-post, nor other mode so designated, then the committee of the society to which such district belongs, shall determine how and where the notice shall be given.

Sec. 38. Every person residing in the district, qualified to vote in town meeting, may vote in district meetings; and every meeting may choose its own moderator, and may adjourn from time to time, to meet at the same or some other place.

Sec. 39. The name, or number and limits of every school district, shall be entered on the records of such district, and on the records of the school society to which such district belongs.

Sec. 40. Whenever the boundary lines of any district are not clearly settled and defined, the school committee of the society in which the district is situated, shall settle and define the same; and whenever said committee can not agree in settling and defining such boundary lines, the school society to which such district belongs, may appoint three indifferent persons for that purpose, who shall have the same authority therein, as is herein conferred upon said society's committee; and said boundary lines may, in either case, when necessary, be defined by an actual survey; and when parts of such district lie in two or more societies, the committee of the school society in which any such part is situated, or in case of disagreement, indifferent persons, appointed as aforesaid, shall settle and define the boundary lines of such part.

Sec. 41. Every school district shall be a body corporate, and shall have power to sue and be sued; to purchase, receive, hold, and convey, real or personal property for school purposes; to build, purchase, hire, and repair school-houses, and to supply the same with fuel, furniture, and other appendages and accommodations; to purchase maps, globes, black-boards, and other school apparatus; to establish and maintain a school library; to employ one or more teachers, and shall be holden to pay the wages of any such teacher or teachers, as are employed by the committee of such district in conformity to law; to lay taxes, and to make all lawful agreements and regulations for establishing and conducting schools, not inconsistent with the regulations of the school society to which such district belongs.

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Sec. 42. Each school district shall choose, at the annual meeting, a committee of not more than three residents of the district, a clerk, who shall be sworn, a treasurer, and collector, who shall hold their respective offices until the next annual meeting, and until others are chosen, or appointed; and any person so chosen, who shall refuse, or neglect, to perform the duties of the office, shall pay five dollars to the treasurer of the district, for the use of said district; provided, that any new district may choose their officers at their first, or at any subsequent meeting, called by a committee of the society, who shall hold their offices till the annual meeting of such school district.

Sec. 43. In case any district, at the time for the annual meeting, shall fail or neglect to appoint all or any of the officers required by this act, or any vacancy shall occur by death, removal from the district, or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the committee of the school society, to which such district belongs, to make such appointment, and to fill such vacancy, on receiving written notice thereof from any three members of the district, and to lodge the name or names of such officers so appointed, with the district clerk.

Sec. 44. The district committee shall give notice of all meetings of the district, in the manner prescribed; shall, unless otherwise directed by the district, employ one or more qualified teachers; shall provide suitable school-rooms, and furnish the same with fuel properly prepared; shall visit the schools, by one or more of their number, twice at least during each season of schooling; may, when the scholars are not properly supplied with books, if he or they deem it necessary, provide the same at the expense of the district; shall suspend, during pleasure, or expel from school, during the current season, all pupils found guilty, on full hearing, of incorrigibly bad conduct; and shall give such information and assistance to the school committees and visitors of the society, as they may require, and perform all other lawful acts that may be required of them by the district, or which may be necessary to carry into full effect the powers and duties of school districts.

Sec. 45. The clerk, treasurer, and collector, of each school district, shall exercise the same powers, and perform the same duties in their respective districts, as the clerk, treasurer, and collector, of school societies do, in their respective societies.

Sec. 46. The inhabitants of each district, in lawful meeting, shall have power to require that the treasurer and collector shall respectively give bonds to the district, for the faithful discharge of the duties of their respective offices, which bonds shall be approved by the district committee, before the treasurer, or collector, shall enter upon the duties of his office.

Sec. 47. The vote of two-thirds of any legal meeting shall be necessary, to fix the site of a new school-house, or to change the site of an old one; but if such vote of two-thirds can not be obtained in favor of any site, the committee of the school society, or the committees of the school societies in which such district is located, on application of the district, shall fix the site, and make return thereof to the clerk of the district, and to the clerk of the society in which such site shall be.

Sec. 48. Whenever a school district, from inability or other cause, shall not support a school within the same, and the scholars belonging thereto shall attend the school of any other district, it shall be lawful for the school society, where the enumeration of the children is made and returned, to receive from the Comptroller of public accounts, and to pay to the district or districts where such children actually attend school, the proportion of school moneys which are drawn on the children so enumerated; and a certificate from the committee of the school district where such children have attended school, that the money is so appropriated, shall be presented to the committee of the school society

to which such children belong, and shall be sufficient evidence that such money has been appropriated according to law.

NOTE.

CHAPTER IV.—Of Teachers.

SEC. 49. No teacher shall be employed in any school supported by any portion of the public money, until he has received a certificate of examination and approbation, signed by a majority of the board of visitors, or by all the committee by them appointed, nor shall any teacher be entitled to draw any portion of his wages, so far as the same is paid out of any public money appropriated by law to schools, unless he can produce such certificate, dated previous to the opening of his school; provided, that no new certificate shall be necessary, when the teacher is continued in the same school more than one term, unless the visitors shall require it.

SEC. 50. It shall be the duty of every teacher in any common district school, to enter in a book, or a register, to be provided by the clerk at the expense of the district, the names of all the scholars attending school, their ages, the date when they commenced, the length of time they continue, and their daily attendance, together with the day of the month on which such school was visited by the school visitors of the society, or committee by them appointed; which book, or register, shall be open at all times to the inspection of all persons interested, and be delivered over by the teacher, at the close of the term, to the district clerk, together with a certified abstract, showing the whole number of pupils enrolled, the number of males and females, and the average daily attendance.

CHAPTER V.—Of State Appropriations, Taxation, and Expenses.

SEC. 51. The income of the school fund, after deducting all expenses attending its management, shall be divided by the Comptroller of public accounts, with the advice of the Commissioner of the school fund, and distributed among the several school societies, in proportion to the number of persons between four and sixteen years of age, as ascertained by the school committee of such society, in conformity with the provisions of this act.

SEC. 52. The district committee shall annually, in the month of August, ascertain the name of every person over four and under sixteen years of age, who shall belong to such district on the first Monday of said month, and compose a part of the family of his parents, guardians, or employers, together with the names of such parents, guardians, or employers, and shall make return of the same to the committee of the school society to which such district belongs, on or before the first day of September; provided, that in such return, no persons shall be included who are residing in such districts to attend private school, or for other temporary purposes; but such persons shall be enumerated in the district where their parents or guardians reside.

SEC. 53. In case of the absence or inability of the district committee to make the enumeration and return above required, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the district to do the same, in the manner, and within the time, before described.

SEC. 54. Whenever the committee and clerk of any school district shall omit to return to the committee of the school society, the enumeration of children in their respective districts, within the time prescribed by law, it shall be the duty of one of the committee of such school society to make such enumeration before the tenth day of September

NOTE. following, and to return the same to the committee of such society; and for making such enumeration, said committee-man shall be entitled to receive five cents for each child so enumerated, to be paid from the next dividend belonging to said district, which may thereafter be received from the town deposit fund.

Sec. 55. The return, above required to be made to the committee of the society, shall be subscribed by the person making the same, and sworn to before a magistrate, according to the following form:

I do hereby certify, that I have carefully enumerated, according to law, all persons between the ages of four and sixteen, within the school district, and do find, that on the first Monday of August, A. D. there were residing within said district, and belonging thereto, the number of persons between the ages aforesaid. A. B.

On this day of A. D. personally appeared the above named A. B. and made oath to the truth of the above return by him subscribed, before me. C. D., justice of the peace.

79 Sec. 56. The committee of the school society shall examine and correct the returns made to them, so that no person shall be enumerated twice in different districts, or be improperly returned, and shall prepare and transmit to the Comptroller of public accounts, on or before the fifteenth day of September, annually, a certificate, in which the number of persons shall be inserted at full length, and which shall be sworn to, according to the following form, to wit:

We, the committee of the school society in the town of do certify, that from the returns made to us under oath, as by law provided, we find that on the first Monday of August, A. D. there were residing within said society, and belonging thereto, the number of persons, between the ages of four and sixteen years; and from the best information we have obtained, we verily believe that said number is correct. School society committee.

On this day of A. D. personally appeared the above named committee, and made oath to the truth of the above certificate, by them subscribed before me. C. D., justice of the peace.

The school society committee shall lodge the returns made to them, with the treasurer of the society.

Sec. 57. The Comptroller of public accounts, on application of the committee of any school society, shall draw an order on the Treasurer for the amount which such school society may be entitled to, of all moneys appropriated by law for the benefit, support and encouragement of common schools, which may be in the treasury on the first days of March and October, annually; provided, that no order shall be drawn in favor of any society, until the committee of such society shall certify, in writing, under their hands, in the following words, to wit:

80 We, the committee of the school society, in the town of do certify, that the schools in said society have been kept, for at least four months in the year ending the thirteenth day of September last, by teachers duly examined and approved, and have been visited according to law; and that all the moneys drawn from the public treasury by said society for said year, appropriated to schooling have been faithfully applied and expended in paying for the services of said teachers, and for no other purpose whatever.

Dated at the day of A. D. School society committee.

To the Comptroller of public accounts.

81 Sec. 58. Whenever the school, in any school district, shall not be kept according to law, the committee of the society to which such district belongs, shall in their certificate or certificates to the Comptroller for the year following, state such fact, and also the number of children enumerated in such district; and the Comptroller, when application is

made for the school moneys payable to such society for said year, shall deduct from the whole number of children enumerated in such society, the number contained in such district, and shall draw an order for the benefit of the remaining districts in such society. NOTE.

SEC. 59. Every school society, in lawful meeting, may authorize the committee of the society, to draw an order on the society treasurer, in favor of such districts as have kept their schools in all respects according to law, for their proportion of all the public moneys appropriated to the use of schools, in the hands of the treasurer, either in proportion to the number of persons between the ages of four and sixteen, in such districts, or to the number of persons who shall have attended the common school or schools in said district during the year preceding; provided, that whenever the public money derived from the school fund, will not amount, according to rule of distribution, to thirty-five dollars for a district in any one year, the school society to which such district belongs, shall grant and allow, out of said school money, to such district, so much as will give said district the sum of thirty-five dollars, in case there are not less than twelve children in said district, between the ages of four and sixteen years; and provided further, that no school district shall be entitled to any portion of the public money, unless the school, in such district, has been kept by a teacher or teachers duly qualified, for at least four months in the year, and visited twice, during each season of schooling, by the visitors of the school society, nor until the district committee shall certify that the public money received by the district, for the year previous, has been faithfully applied and expended in paying for the services of such teacher or teachers, and for no other purpose whatever. 82
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SEC. 60. In all cases of forfeiture of public money, under the two next preceding sections of this act, application shall be made to the superintendent of common schools, who shall examine the facts of each case, and according to its equity, decide on the right of the applicants to receive the money so forfeited, and the same shall be paid, as if no forfeiture had occurred, on his certificate to the Comptroller of public accounts, in approbation of such payment.

SEC. 61. If any money appropriated to the use of schools, shall be applied by a school society, or a school district, to any other purpose, the same shall be forfeited to the state, and it shall be the duty of the Comptroller to sue for such money, in behalf of the state, to be applied to the use of schools.

SEC. 62. If any committee shall, at any time, fraudulently make a false certificate, by which money shall be drawn from the treasury of the state, each person so fraudulently making such false certificate, shall forfeit the sum of sixty dollars to the state, to be recovered by action of debt, on this statute; and it shall be the duty of the Comptroller to bring a suit to recover the same.

SEC. 63. Whenever the expense of keeping a common school by a teacher or teachers duly qualified, shall exceed the amount of all 87 moneys provided to defray the expenses of such school, the committee may examine, adjust, and allow, all bills of expense incurred for support of said school, and assess the same upon the parents, guardians, and masters, of such children as attended the same, according to the number and time sent by each; and whenever such assessment shall be made, the district committee may procure a warrant, and deliver the same, 88 with the rate bill containing such assessment, to the collector of taxes for the district, who shall have the same power to levy and collect the same, as to levy and collect the taxes laid by the district.

SEC. 64. Whenever the contingent expenses of any school district, arising from repairs of school-house, or its appendages, books, costs, 89

damages, or any source, shall not exceed the sum of twenty dollars in one year, the same may be included in the aforesaid assessment.

Note.

SEC. 65. No child shall be excluded from any common school in the district to which such child belongs, on account of the inability of the parent, guardian, or employer of the same, to pay his tax or assessment for any school purposes whatever, and the selectmen, or a majority of the same, of the town in which such child shall reside, shall be a board with power to abate, at their discretion, the taxes or assessment of such person so unable to pay the same, or any part thereof, and the selectmen shall draw an order for the amount of such abatement, upon the treasurer of the town in which such person resides, in favor of said district.

90 SEC. 66. Whenever a district shall impose a tax, the same shall be levied on all the real estate situated therein, and upon the polls, and other rateable estate, except real estate situated without the limits of such district, of those persons who are residents therein at the time of laying such tax, and said real estate shall not be taxed by any school district except the one in which the same is situated; and said tax shall be made out and signed by the district committee, from the assessment list of the town or towns to which said district belongs, last completed, or next to be completed, as said district may direct.

SEC. 67. Whenever real estate situated in one district, is so assessed and entered in the grand list, in common with other estate, situated out of said district, that there is no distinct and separate value put by the assessors upon the part lying in said district, then said district wishing to lay a tax as aforesaid, may call on one or more of the assessors for the time being, of the town in which such property is situated, to assess, and they shall, on such application, assess the value of that part of said estate which lies in said district, and return the same to the clerk of said town, and notice of such assessment, and of the meeting of the assessors and society's committee, hereafter mentioned, shall be given by the district committee, in the same way as a notice for school meetings; and at the end of fifteen days after said assessment has been returned as aforesaid, said assessors and society's committee shall meet, in such place in said district as said district committee shall designate in his notice aforesaid, and shall have the same power in relation to such list as the board of relief have in relation to lists of towns; and when such list shall be perfected by said assessors and society's committee, the same shall be lodged with the town clerk, and said assessment shall be the rule of taxation for said estate by said district for the year ensuing, and said assessors shall be paid, by said district, a reasonable compensation for their services.

91 SEC. 68. Whenever any school society in this state shall impose a tax, the same shall be levied on all the real estate situated therein, and upon the polls, and other rateable estate, except real estate situated without the limits of such school society, of those persons who are resident therein, at the time of laying such tax, and said real estate shall not be taxed, by any school society except the one in which the same is situated, and said tax shall be made out and signed by the committee of the society, from the assessment list of the town or towns to which said society belongs, last completed, or next to be completed, as said society may direct; and whenever real estate situated in any society, is so entered and assessed in the grand list, in common with other estate situated out of said society, that there is no distinct and separate value put by the assessors upon the part lying in said society, said society shall proceed in the manner provided for school districts in similar cases, in the next preceding section of this act.

SEC. 69. The several school societies and school districts in this state may appoint either of the constables of the town or towns in

which such school society or district may be situated, to be collector of the taxes of such school society or district, whether such constable belongs to said district or society or not. And it shall be the duty of the constable appointed such collector, on receiving any rate, tax, or assessment bill, from the committee of any such school society or district, forthwith to collect the same, and pay the amount of such bill or bills into the treasury of such school society or district, and said constable shall be allowed such fees for collecting the same as are allowed to collectors of state taxes.

AN ACT in alteration of "An Act concerning Education."

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened,* The Principal of the State Normal School, shall be, ex-officio, Superintendent of Common Schools, whose duty it shall be to exercise a general supervision over the common schools of the state, to collect information from school visitors in the manner provided in the twenty-fifth section of the Act concerning Education, and from other sources, to prepare and submit an annual report to the General Assembly, containing a statement of the condition of the common schools of the state, plans and suggestions for the improvement and better organization of the common school system, and all such matters relating to his office and to the interests of education as he shall deem expedient to communicate.

SEC. 2. That the Superintendent appointed by virtue hereof be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to hold at one convenient place in each county of the state, in the months of September, October or November annually, schools or conventions of teachers, for the purpose of instructing in the best modes of governing and teaching our common schools, and to employ one suitable person to assist him at each of said schools.

SEC. 3. That the compensation of the Superintendent shall be three dollars per day, in full for his services while actually employed in performing the duties required of him by law, and shall be allowed his necessary disbursements for traveling expenses, stationery, printing and clerk-hire, in the business of said office. And the person or persons by him employed in assisting at said school, shall be allowed not exceeding three dollars per day for the time occupied in traveling to and from, and attending said school conventions; which compensation and disbursements shall be paid from the civil list funds of the state, after being taxed and allowed by the Comptroller, who shall draw an order on the State Treasurer therefor.

SEC. 4. That the Superintendent of Common Schools be, and he is hereby directed to give seasonable notice to each school society of the times and places of holding said schools or conventions, and such other notice to the teachers as he may deem expedient.

SEC. 5. That so much of the tenth section of the Act concerning Education as constitutes the Commissioner of the School Fund, ex-officio, Superintendent of Common Schools, and the resolve, passed in 1848, providing for employing persons to hold schools of teachers, and for holding the same, be, and the same are hereby repealed. *Provided,* that the Commissioner of the School Fund shall, ex-officio, remain Superintendent of Common Schools, exercising all the powers heretofore conferred on him, until the Principal of the State Normal School shall be appointed, and enter on the duties of said appointment.

Approved, June 22d, 1849.

Public Acts, May session, 1849.

AN ACT in addition to "An Act concerning Education."

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:* That no future meeting of any school society or school district shall be deemed to be legally warned unless, in addition to the notice now required to be given of the time, place and object of such meeting, the person or persons giving such notice shall, on the day of giving such notice, leave a duplicate of the same with the clerk of such society or district, which it shall be the duty of such clerk to preserve on file.

SEC. 2. That every school society, at any legal meeting, specially warned for that purpose, may designate the time and place of holding all subsequent annual meetings of said society, within said society's limits: *provided*, that such annual meetings be appointed at some time within the months of September or October in each year.

Approved, June 30th, 1851.

AN ACT in addition to "An Act concerning Committees and Corporations."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened: Every warning of any meeting of any borough, city, ecclesiastical society, school district, or other public community, shall specify the object for which such meeting is to be held.

Approved, June 22d, 1849.

AN ACT in alteration of "An Act concerning Education."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly, convened:—

99 SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the comptroller of public accounts and the commissioner of the school fund, before proceeding to the distribution of the income of the school fund pro rata among the several school societies, pursuant to the fifty-first section of the said act, to ascertain what school districts, and in what societies, are entitled by virtue of the fifty-ninth section of said act, to the sum of thirty-five dollars, notwithstanding the number of scholars in such district are not sufficient to entitle them to that sum, upon a pro rata distribution, and to distribute to the societies in which such districts are situated, for the benefit of such districts, the sum of thirty-five dollars for every such district.

100 SEC. 2. The balance of said income, shall be distributed according to the provisions of said fifty-first section, to the several societies in proportion to the number of persons in each, as therein provided, deducting from the number in any such society, the number contained in any district, to which there shall have been first appropriated, the sum of thirty five dollars as aforesaid.

SEC. 3. So much of said act as is inconsistent herewith, is hereby repealed.

Approved, June 29th, 1852.

AN ACT in alteration of the fifth chapter of the Act entitled "An Act concerning Education."

NOTE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly, convened :—

SEC. 1. That the enumeration by the district committee now by law required to be made in the month of August, annually, shall hereafter be made in the month of January, and such enumeration shall be of all persons residing and belonging to the respective districts on the first Monday of January in each year, instead of the first Monday of August.

SEC. 2. Whenever it shall become necessary for the enumeration of a district to be made by one of the society's committee, as is now provided in the fifty-fourth section of the above act, the same shall be made on or before the tenth day of February instead of the tenth day of September.

SEC. 3. The certificate now required to be made, returned and sworn to, as provided in the fifty-fifth section of the above act, shall be in like form and substance, substituting the words "first Monday of January, A. D.," for the words "first Monday of August, A. D."

SEC. 4. The certificate now required to be made and transmitted to the comptroller of public accounts by the society's committee, agreeably to the fifty-sixth section of said act, shall hereafter be made on or before the fifteenth day of February annually, and the form and substance of the same, shall be the same as is now provided, substituting the words "first Monday of January," in lieu of the "first Monday of August."

SEC. 5. In lieu of the dividends now by law provided to be made in the months of October and March in each year, there shall be but one dividend of the revenue of the school fund in the treasury, on the first day of March in each year. payable on said day in the manner now by law provided.

Approved, June 22d, 1852.

AN ACT confirming the warnings of School Society and District Meetings.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened : That all meetings of school societies or school districts, which were informal by reason of the neglect of the school society's committee, or district committee, to leave a duplicate of the warning with the clerk of such society or district, or when the proceedings of the meetings of such school societies or districts have been in any other respect informal or unlawful, shall, notwithstanding such neglect, informality, or unlawful proceedings, be, and they are hereby validated and confirmed : *provided*, that the meetings were in other respects conformable to law, and *provided further*, that this act shall not affect any suit now pending.

Approved, June 24th, 1852.

AN ACT in addition to an act entitled "An Act concerning Education."

Whereas, doubts have arisen as to the true intent and meaning of the sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sections of the act concerning education, conferring power upon school districts to impose taxes, in connection

Note. with the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, passed May session, 1851, wherefore, for the purpose of removing said doubts,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly, convened: That the true intent and meaning of said sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sections, is that school districts have, and shall
 104 continue to have the power and authority to levy such taxes, as are mentioned in said sixty-sixth section, on all the real estate situate therein, and that no deduction or abatement shall be made by reason of the indebtedness of the owner or owners of the same in the amount to be levied upon said real estate.

Approved, June 28th, 1852.

AN ACT in addition to, and in explanation of the Act entitled "An Act concerning Education."

Whereas, doubts are entertained with regard to the true intent and meaning of the sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sections of the above
 105 entitled act, in connection with the forty-seventh section of the act concerning the assessment and collection of taxes, passed May session, 1851, now therefore, for the purpose of removing said doubts,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly, convened: That all the real estate lying within the limits of a school district, shall be liable to be assessed and taxed for the purposes now by law authorized for school districts, at its fair value, without a right of deduction therefrom, on account of the indebtedness of the owner thereof.

Approved, June 29th, 1852.

AN ACT in addition to "An Act concerning Education."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly, convened: That it shall be the duty of the selectmen of
 106 every town, whenever any taxes or assessment against the parents, guardian or employer of any poor child, shall be presented to them for abatement, pursuant to the sixty-fifth section of said act, to examine and determine whether the same should or should not be abated; and nothing in said section shall be construed to authorize the selectmen in any such case to refuse or neglect action thereon.

Approved, June 28th, 1852.

AN ACT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened,* There shall be established, as hereinafter provided, one Normal School, or seminary, for the training of teachers in the art of instructing and governing the common schools of this state; the object of which Normal School, or seminary, shall be, not to educate teachers in the studies now required by law, but to receive such as are found competent in these studies, in the manner hereinafter provided, and train them in the best methods of teaching and conducting common schools.

SEC. 2. There shall be appointed, by the Legislature, eight trustees of said Normal School, one from each county in the state; two of whom shall, in the first instance, hold their office for one year, two for two years, two for three years, and two for four years, the term of office to be by them determined, by lot or otherwise; the vacancies to be filled by appointment by the Legislature, for the residue of the term which shall so become vacant; and the Superintendent of Common Schools, ex-officio, shall also be a member of said board.

SEC. 3. The expenses necessarily incurred by said trustees, in the discharge of their duties, shall be defrayed out of the funds herein appropriated for the support of said school; and they shall receive no compensation for their services.

SEC. 4. To said board of trustees shall be committed the location of said school; the application of the funds for the support thereof; the appointment of teachers, and power of removing the same; the power to prescribe the studies and exercises of the school, rules for its management, and granting diplomas; and they shall report annually to the Legislature their own doings, and the progress and condition of the school, and the said trustees are hereby authorized to change the location of said Normal School, from time to time, as they deem best for the interest of said school, and for the accommodation of the pupils in the different parts of the state, provided suitable buildings and fixtures are furnished without expense to the state.

SEC. 5. The number of pupils shall not exceed two hundred and twenty; and the visitors of each school society in the state shall be requested to forward to the Superintendent of Common Schools, annually, the names of four persons, two of each sex, applicants for admission to said school, whom the said visitors shall certify they have examined and approved as possessed of the qualifications required of teachers of common schools in this state; which applicants shall have given to said visitors a written declaration, signed with their own hands, that their object in seeking admission to the school, is to qualify themselves for the employment of common school teachers; and that it is their intention to engage in that employment in this state, which applicants the said visitors shall recommend to the trustees as suitable persons, by their age, character, talents and attainments, to be received as pupils in the Normal School. The trustees shall select by lot, from the whole number of applicants from each county, the proportion of pupils to which such county is entitled by its population, of male and female, each an equal number; *provided*, that not more than one shall be admitted from any school society, till each society, from which an application is made, shall have a pupil in the school. The trustees shall forward to each pupil, so appointed, a certificate of his appointment, returning also to the principal a list of pupils appointed to the school. If there shall not be a sufficient number of applicants from any county, to fill the number of appointments allowed to such county, the trustees shall fill the vacancy by lot from

among the whole number of remaining applicants. To all pupils so admitted to the school, the tuition and all the privileges of the school shall be gratuitous.

SEC. 6. The said trustees are authorized to make provisions for a *Model Primary School*, under a permanent teacher approved by them, in which the pupils of the Normal School shall have opportunity to practice the modes of instruction and discipline inculcated in the Normal School.

SEC. 7. For the support of said Normal School, there is hereby appropriated the bonus derived from the "State Bank," and the interest which may accrue thereon; from which the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars, annually, for the term of four years, shall be paid to said trustees, with said interest, by order of the Comptroller, on the Treasurer of the State; no part of which sum shall be expended in any building or fixtures for said school.

Approved, June 22d, 1849.

Public Acts, May session, 1849.

EXTRACT from Section 1st of an Act incorporating the State Bank at Hartford.

"Provided, That the President and Directors of said bank shall pay into the treasury of this state the sum of ten thousand dollars, as a bonus which sum shall be appropriated to the support of a Normal School in this state, in such ways and at such place as shall be provided by the Legislature."

Resolutions and Private Acts, May session, 1849.

EXTRACT from Section 12th of an Act incorporating the Deep River Bank.

"Provided, That before said bank shall commence discounting notes, the Directors of said bank shall pay to the treasurer of this state the sum of one thousand dollars for the purpose of sustaining a Normal School in this state."

Resolutions and Private Acts, May session, 1849.

"Resolved, That the Comptroller of Public Accounts be, and he hereby is directed to draw an order on the Treasurer of the State, payable to the trustees of the State Normal School, for the sum of one thousand dollars, heretofore deposited with said Treasurer, by the Deep River Bank, for the use of said School."

Resolutions and Private Acts, May session, 1850.

EXTRACT from an Act increasing the capital stock of the Farmers' Bank at Bridgeport.

"Whenever, and as soon as the above additional stock shall have been subscribed and paid in, the Farmers' Bank shall pay the sum of five hundred dollars to the State Reform School when established; the like sum of five hundred dollars to the State Normal School, and five hundred dollars to the Bridgeport Library Association."

Resolutions and Private Acts, May session, 1851.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly, convened:—

SEC. 1. That, there shall be established, on land conveyed to this State for that purpose, a school for the instruction, employment and reformation of juvenile offenders, to be called the "State Reform School;" and the government of said school shall be vested in a board of eight trustees, to be appointed by the Senate, during the present session of the General Assembly, and consist of one from each county in the State.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of said board of trustees to take charge of the general interests of the institution; to see that its affairs are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Legislature, and of such by-laws as the board may from time to time adopt for the orderly and economical management of its concerns; to see that strict discipline is maintained therein; to provide employment for the inmates, and bind them out, discharge or remand them, as is herein after provided; to appoint a superintendent and such other officers as, in their judgment, the wants of the institution may require; to prescribe the duties of the superintendent and other officers; to exercise a vigilant supervision over the institution, its officers and inmates; to remove such officers at pleasure, and appoint others in their stead; and to determine the salaries to be paid to the officers respectively; and all by-laws made by said trustees for the management of said institution and not contrary to the laws of this State, shall be binding in all respects upon said superintendent, officers, and inmates; and the said trustees shall, each year, prepare and submit, under oath, to the General Assembly, a report of the concerns of said institution together with a copy of said by-laws.

SEC. 3. Whenever said State Reform School shall be prepared for occupancy, said trustees shall give public notice of the fact, by advertisement in at least two newspapers printed in this State.

SEC. 4. After notice shall have been given as provided in the third section of this Act, when any boy under the age of sixteen years shall be convicted of any offense known to the laws of this State, and punishable by imprisonment, other than such as may be punishable by imprisonment for life, the court or justice, as the case may be, before whom such conviction shall be had, may, at their discretion, sentence such boy to the State Reform School, or to such punishment as is now provided by law for the same offense. And if the sentence shall be to the Reform School, then it shall be in the alternative, to the State Reform School or to such punishment as would have been awarded if this Act had not been passed. *Provided*, that no justice of the peace shall sentence any boy, as aforesaid, to the State Reform School, for a longer period than ninety days, unless upon the recommendation, at the time of such sentence, of a majority of the selectmen of the town in which such conviction shall be had.

SEC. 5. Any boy so convicted and sent to said school, shall there be kept, disciplined, instructed, employed, and governed, under the direction of said board of trustees, until he shall be either reformed and discharged, or shall be bound out by said trustees, according to their by-laws, or shall be remanded to prison under the sentence of the court, as incorrigible, upon information of the trustees, as herein after provided.

SEC. 6. If any boy shall, upon any conviction, be sentenced to said school, and the trustees, or any two of them, in the absence of the others, shall deem it inexpedient to receive him, or if he shall be found incorrigible, or his continuance in the school shall be deemed prejudicial to

the management and discipline thereof, they shall certify the same upon the mittimus by virtue of which he is held, which mittimus, together with the boy, shall be delivered to the sheriff of any county, or to the constable of any town, who shall forthwith commit said boy to the jail, state prison, or work-house, as the case may be, in pursuance of the alternative sentence provided for in the preceding section of this Act.

SEC. 7. All commitments to the Reform School, of boys of whatever age when committed, shall be for a term not longer than during their minority, nor less than ninety days, unless sooner discharged by order of the trustees, as herein before provided; and whenever any boy shall be discharged therefrom, by the expiration of his term of commitment, or as reformed, or as having arrived at the age of twenty-one years, such discharge shall be a full and complete release from all penalties and disabilities which may have been created by such sentence.

SEC. 8. The trustees aforesaid shall have power to bind out all boys committed to said school, for any term of time during the period for which they shall have been committed, as apprentices to any inhabitants of this State; and the said trustees and master or mistress and apprentice shall respectively have all the rights and privileges, and be subject to all the duties and penalties presented and set forth in the "Act concerning the Domestic Relations," Chapter VII., Of Master and Servant, of the Revised Statutes of this State.

SEC. 9. The trustees shall cause the boys, while under commitment, to be instructed in piety and morality, and in such branches of useful knowledge as shall be adapted to their age and capacity; they shall cause them to be instructed in some regular course of labor, either mechanical, manufacturing, agricultural, or horticultural, or a combination of these, as shall be best suited to their age and strength, disposition and capacity.

SEC. 10. The superintendent shall have the charge and custody of the boys. He shall be a resident at the institution. He shall have charge of the lands, buildings, furniture, tools, implements, stock, and provisions, and every species of property pertaining to the institution, and he shall be treasurer thereof. He shall keep, in suitable books, regular and complete accounts of all his receipts and expenditures, and of all property intrusted to him, showing the income and expenditures of the institution; and he shall account in such manner as the trustees may require; and he shall hold all books, papers, documents, vouchers and accounts open to the inspection of said trustees; and said superintendent and treasurer shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, give a bond to the treasurer of this State, with sureties acceptable to him, in the sum of five thousand dollars, conditioned that he shall faithfully account for all moneys and property, received by him as superintendent and treasurer, and faithfully perform all the duties incumbent on him as such, which said bond shall be filed and kept in the office of the treasurer of this State.

SEC. 11. Whenever the sum of twenty thousand dollars shall have been provided as herein after mentioned, said trustees shall purchase in some country town, accessible from all parts of the State, such land as in extent, quality, and location, will be, in their judgment, suitable for the intentions and objects of this Act, and shall cause to be erected thereon such buildings, and furnish the same in such manner as, on examination, shall be judged requisite; and all property when purchased as aforesaid, and all buildings erected thereon, shall be conveyed in fee simple to this State, and forever thereafter remain vested in the State. When two years shall have expired after the first appointment of said board of trustees, two trustees shall be appointed and commissioned annually by the Senate, and the places of the two senior members, as they stand in the order of their appointment, shall be thereafter annually vacated. No

trustee shall receive any compensation for his services; but he shall be allowed the amount of expenses incurred by him in the discharge of the duties of his office, to be examined and allowed by the superior court in the county where such school shall be located.

SEC. 12. Whenever the sum of ten thousand dollars shall have been given by individuals, for the establishment of said State Reform School, and shall have been actually paid into the hands of the treasurer of this State, he shall hold the same for the purposes of this Act. And the said treasurer shall notify the comptroller of public accounts thereof, and thereafter, upon the request of said trustees, said comptroller shall draw his order upon said treasurer, for the additional sum of ten thousand dollars, to be paid out of the state treasury; and the said treasurer shall hold said sums, being twenty thousand dollars, for the use of said State Reform School; and shall pay to said trustees, for the purposes of this Act, such sum or sums, and at such times, as said trustees request,—not exceeding in all said twenty thousand dollars.

SEC. 13. There shall be taxed at each session of the superior court in and for the county in which said Reform School shall be located, the sum of one dollar for each week's board (as well as for the clothing and fuel) of each boy committed to said Reform School; and the superintendent shall make his bill therefor, and present the same to the judge of said court, who shall tax and allow the same; and the same shall be drawn from the state treasury, by the clerk of said court, in the same manner as the costs in criminal cases; and said clerk shall pay the same to said superintendent, upon his receipt therefor.

SEC. 14. It shall be the duty of the superintendent to render his account of all the receipts, earnings and expenses of said school, on the thirty-first day of March in each year, to the comptroller of public accounts, who shall audit and adjust the same; the balance on hand, if any there be, shall be the property of the State, and such part thereof as the comptroller may direct shall be paid into the treasury of this State.

Approved, June 27th, 1851.

At the May session of the General Assembly, 1852, the additional sum of \$5,000 was appropriated to the uses of the State Reform School.

The Trustees have located the Institution in the town of Meriden, and have purchased a farm within a mile and a half of the Railroad Station.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

RESOLUTIONS RESPECTING EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTS AND LECTURES, PASSED MAY SESSION, 1850.

Resolved, That the Superintendent of Common Schools is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and publish a series of reports or documents on the topics specified on pages 76, 77, 78, and 79, of his Annual Report to the General Assembly for 1850, in such order and to such extent, and in such manner as the Trustees of the State Normal School shall approve; and the Comptroller is hereby authorized to draw an order on the Treasurer, payable out of the civil list funds, for such publication. *Provided*, that at least three thousand copies of each document published shall be circulated among the teachers and school officers of the State: *and provided further*, that a sum equal to that for which any order shall be drawn by the Comptroller shall have been placed at the disposal of the Superintendent and applied by him to the same object: *and provided also*, that the aggregate amount of all orders so drawn during the year shall not exceed one thousand dollars.

Resolved, That the Superintendent of Common Schools, in addition to the schools or conventions of teachers now provided for by law, be, and hereby is authorized and directed to hold or cause to be held, at least one meeting of teachers, school officers, and parents, in each school society, for an address and discussion on topics connected with the organization, administration, instruction, and discipline of our common schools; and the Comptroller is hereby authorized to draw an order or orders on the Treasurer, payable out of the civil list funds of the State, for such disbursements as the Superintendent may make in holding and procuring persons to assist in holding the above meetings; *provided*, that the amount of such order or orders shall not exceed three dollars for each school society in which such meetings shall be held.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF BOOKS FOR LIBRARY OF STATE PRISON, PASSED MAY SESSION, 1852.

Resolved by this Assembly, There be the sum of one hundred dollars appropriated out of the earnings of the State-prison for the purpose of procuring suitable books for the library of the Connecticut State-prison, to be purchased under the direction and supervision of the directors of said prison.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT OF PORTION OF CONVICTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF COMMON SCHOOL APPARATUS, PASSED MAY SESSION, 1852.

Resolved, That the Directors of the Connecticut State-prison are hereby authorized to assign and set apart such portion of the labor of the convicts of said prison (not exceeding twenty convicts,) as may be deemed by them expedient; and such portion of said convicts may be employed by them, under the direction of some suitable persons, in the manufacture of common school apparatus, or implements to be used for purposes of illustrating subjects taught in common school, and said labor to be paid for at usual rates, or to be paid for by the avails of such manufactured articles, according to the direction and under the orders of said

Directors as may be deemed most judicious. And the said Directors may, and are hereby authorized to make any contracts for purposes above, with any individual or individuals: *provided*, that any contracts so made do not interfere with the discipline and management of the convicts aforesaid proper to be maintained.

PROVISION FOR-ESTABLISHING LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

(REVISED STATUTES, TITLE III., CHAPTER XII.)

SECT. 174. Any number of individuals in any town in this State, may associate for the purpose of establishing a public library; and being so associated, shall on compliance with the provisions of this section, be a body politic and corporate; may choose a president and other officers; may enact by-laws for regulating the affairs of such corporation, not inconsistent with the laws of this State, and compel the due observance of them by suitable penalties; may sue and be sued, and do all acts necessary and proper for the well-ordering of the affairs of such corporation; *provided*, that before such association shall be entitled to the privileges herein granted, they shall lodge with the Secretary of this State a copy of their articles of association.

PROVISION FOR INCORPORATING ACADEMIES.

(REVISED STATUTES, TITLE III., CHAPTER XII.)

SECT. 175. Any number of individuals in any town in this State, may associate for the purpose of establishing or maintaining an academy school, and being so associated, shall, on compliance with the provisions of this section, be a body politic and corporate; may choose a president and other officers; may enact by-laws to regulate the affairs of such corporation not inconsistent with the laws of this State or of the United States, and compel the due observance thereof by suitable penalties; may sue and be sued, and do all other acts necessary and proper for the well-ordering of the affairs of such corporation, and may purchase and hold real or personal estate of a value not exceeding ten thousand dollars: *provided*, that before any such association shall be entitled to the privileges herein granted, they shall lodge with the Secretary of this State a copy of their articles of association.

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